

For Immediate Release

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201-222-2828

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Albio Sires released the following statement this afternoon on the disastrous earthquake and ongoing relief efforts in Haiti:

“Our prayers and condolences go out to the brave people of Haiti, especially to those whose lives have been struck by the earthquake,” said Congressman Sires. “We mourn with those who lost families, friends, businesses, and homes in this disaster.”

Congressman Sires, along with his colleagues in the House of Representatives, urged Speaker Nancy Pelosi and House Republican Leader John Boehner, to continue to send swift assistance to the Haitian people as they recover from this disaster and rebuild their homes, communities and lives. “My colleagues and I in Congress remain committed to assisting the people of Haiti as they confront the untold effects of this natural disaster,” said Congressman Sires. “We are pleased with the Obama Administration for taking the lead in coordinating the emergency efforts in aiding the people of Haiti”

The State Department Operations Center has set up the following number for Americans seeking information about U.S. Citizens, living or traveling in Haiti: 1-888-407-4747. Due to heavy volume, callers may receive a recording. For inquiries regarding relatives living and who have citizenship in Haiti, the American Red Cross is advising people to be patient and call repeatedly until lines are clear. Communications with Haiti are very difficult at this time. Additionally the International Committee of the Red Cross has set up a Family Links website which allows people in Haiti and the United States to register the names of relatives with whom they want to restore contact. It will incorporate responses to those queries as they become available. That website address is: <http://www.icrc.org/web/doc/siterfl0.nsf/htmlall/familylinks-haiti-eng>

“Our hearts and thoughts are with the people in the United States who have family living in Haiti,” said Sires. “My Congressional office staff is ready to assist the members of the Haitian community in seeking information. Please contact my Jersey City office at 201-222-2828 or visit my website <http://www.sires.house.gov/> for updated information on how to reach your loved ones in Haiti.”

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